

AMENDMENT

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Kindly amend as follows. Entry of the following is respectfully requested.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-300 (canceled)

301. (currently amended) A method of combating microbial infection in animals comprising orally administering to said animals a prophylactic or therapeutic amount of an animal comestible composition comprising a medicated supplement prepared by culturing an organism producing an antibiotic in a fermentation medium to produce a fermentation broth; reducing said fermentation broth to obtain fermentation solids ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of said antibiotic; drying said ~~filtration~~ fermentation solids to produce a dry solid; and granulating said dry solid to produce granulated fermentation solids comprising uncompacted granules having a substantially uniform particle size, wherein the granules have an antimicrobial concentration sufficient to treat an animal of at least 10 g/lb.

Claim 302 (canceled)

303. (previously amended) The method as described in claim 301, wherein the granules have an antimicrobial concentration to about 300 g/lb.

304. (previously amended) The method as described in claim 301, wherein the granules have an antimicrobial concentration to about 200 g/lb.

Claims 305-306 (canceled)

307. (original) The method as described in claim 301, wherein the dry solid has a moisture

content from about 3% to about 10%.

308. (original) The method as described in claim 301, wherein the dry solid has a moisture content from about 4% to about 6%.

309. (original) The method as described in claim 301, wherein the particle size ranges from about 80 mesh to about 10 mesh.

310. (currently amended) The method as described in claim 301, wherein the particle size is at least ~~about~~ 10 mesh.

Claims 311-321 (canceled)

322. (currently amended) A method of combating microbial infection in animals comprising orally administering to said animals a prophylactic or therapeutic amount of an animal comestible composition comprising a medicated supplement prepared by culturing an organism producing an antibiotic in a fermentation medium to produce a fermentation broth; adding an additional quantity of fermentation solid comprising said antibiotic to the fermentation broth to increase the antibiotic activity of said fermentation broth; reducing said fermentation broth to obtain fermentation solids comprising said antibiotic; drying said ~~filtration~~ fermentation solids to produce a dry solid; granulating said dry solid to produce granulated fermentation solids comprising uncompacted granules having a substantially uniform particle size.

323. (previously presented) The method as described in claim 322, further comprising the step of blending said granulated fermentation solids with at least one potency standardizer.

324. (previously presented) The method as described in claim 322, further comprising the

step of blending said granulated fermentation solids with an edible oil.

325. (previously presented) The method as described in claim 322, wherein the additional quantity of said antibiotic added to the fermentation broth was obtained from a previous batch of fermentation broth.

326. (previously amended) The method as described in claim 322, wherein the granules have an antimicrobial concentration of at least 10 g/lb.

327. (previously presented) The method as described in claim 326, wherein the granules have an antimicrobial concentration to about 300 g/lb.

328. (previously presented) The method as described in claim 326, wherein the granules have an antimicrobial concentration to about 200 g/lb.

329. (currently amended) A method of combating microbial infection in animals comprising orally administering to said animals a prophylactic or therapeutic amount of an animal comestible composition comprising a medicated supplement prepared by culturing an organism producing an antibiotic in a first fermentation medium to produce a fermentation broth; reducing said fermentation broth to obtain fermentation solids comprising said antibiotic; drying said ~~filtration~~ fermentation solids to produce a dry solid; granulating said dry solid to produce granulated fermentation solids; screening the granulated fermentation solids to arrive at a first group of granulated solids corresponding to a desired mesh size and a second group of solids which do not correspond with the desired mesh size; and adding the second group of solids to a second, subsequent, fermentation broth having an organism producing an antibiotic in a second fermentation

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medium for increasing the antimicrobial concentration of a subsequent animal comestible composition, for combating microbial infection in animals.

330. (currently amended) The method as described in claim 329, further comprising: reducing said second fermentation broth to obtain a third group of fermentation solids comprising said antibiotic, drying said third group of ~~filtration~~ fermentation solids to produce a dry solid; and granulating said dry solid to produce granulated fermentation solids.

331. (previously amended) The method as described in claim 329, wherein the granules have an antimicrobial concentration of at least 10 g/lb.

332. (previously presented) The method as described in claim 331, wherein the granules have an antimicrobial concentration to about 300 g/lb.

333. (previously presented) The method as described in claim 331, wherein the granules have an antimicrobial concentration to about 200 g/lb.